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Section 17: "**gentis*, adj. (Fr. Pr. *gent*, It. *gente*)¹, apparently a cross between *genitus* and *gentilis*"; but the fact that Prov. always has fem. *genta* makes it reasonably certain that the word is Lat. *genitus* pure and simple. Section 134: As exceptions to the rule that the penult vowel before mute and liquid normally has the stress in Vulgar Latin are mentioned *pálpebras* > O. Fr. *palpres*, **púlitra* > O. Fr. *poltre*, "and perhaps some others". The present writer is able to add only *ferctrum* > O. Fr. *fiertre*, Ital. *feretro*. Section 138: "Aside from these [above-mentioned] cases, hiatus seems to have had no effect on the accent in Latin. It is possible, however, that *duós*, *súos*, *túos* were sometimes pronounced *duós*, *suós*, *tuós*". The fact which is here tentatively mentioned without explanation or cross-reference, is correctly, if too briefly, set forth in section 158: "Words sometimes stressed and sometimes unstressed tended to develop double forms: *illás* > *illas* and **las*, *sua* > *súa* and *sa*". It is such vital processes as this, teeming with the possibilities of momentary deviation from norm, that should claim the fullest elucidation, even in a succinct manual. An exposition of this phenomenon, in particular, would serve to illuminate the differentiation of the so-called conjunctive and disjunctive personal pronouns of the practical grammars and of the adjectival and pronominal forms of the determinatives (including the definite article). Section 170: Apropos of *pejor*, and the discussions of Terentianus Maurus and Priscian, it would have been appropriate to start with **per-ior* > *pejor*. Section 358: "An ablative in *-abus* is occasionally found". It may be entertaining *virginibus puerisque*—as well as eminently proper—to find here, duly chronicled as rarities, and with all the critical apparatus of reference to the *Archiv*, to Person and to Bonnet, our familiar friends of the nursery and of Lesson I of all the Latin primers, *deabus* and *filiabus*.

But such desultory comment must not even seem to be permitted to obscure the wealth of systematically accumulated detail, ranging progressively through the chapters on vocabulary, syntax, phonology and morphology. In addition to a full general bibliography, the successive paragraphs are supplied, wherever requisite, with more specific references; and there is an adequate index. The book is presented in attractive garb, and typographical errors are commendably few. In Section 178 ω is twice misprinted *ce*; in Section 192, last line, a rough breathing is twice printed under δ , in place of iota subscript.

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SUMMARIES

COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS AND TRUSTS IN ROME

R. Laurient-Vibert has in the *Mélanges d'Archéologie et d'Histoire* of May-July, 1908, a very in-

¹This is one of the few paragraphs in which Romance equivalents are given.

teresting article on the *publicani* of Asia in 51 B. C.

In general, of course, every teacher of Cicero is familiar with the farming of the Roman revenues in Asia and elsewhere by the *Societates publicanorum*. It appears, however, that in the year mentioned, the governorship of Cicero in Cilicia, we find the management of the revenues of all Asia Minor in the hands of a syndicate, headed by, and named after the *Societas Bithyniae*, probably because the latter had been the moving spirit in the consolidation. Ordinarily the different societies dealt with the different departments of the revenues—*decuma*, *scriptura*, *portoria*—had their special *magistri*, or managing directors, and could place themselves under the patronage of different influential officials. Legally, the censors of each lustrum made new contracts, and hence the life of a farming society would have been limited to the space of one lustrum, i. e. five years. Apparently, however, these societies occasionally were above the law. Thus we find that during the administration of Cicero, the corporation, thanks to the wise dealings of the proconsul, was able to collect not only the taxes due during its own lustrum, but also those owing from the preceding one. It seems thus that the one company had held the contract since 61 B. C. Now we know from the earlier correspondence of Cicero that the contractors of 61 had demanded the repeal of their contract with the Roman state, because, as they claimed, their bid had been ruinously high. This demand had been energetically fought by Cato, who had succeeded in blocking all legislative progress, and it had been only during the consulate of Caesar, 59, that the contractors had gained their point, and had had their contract reduced by 33%. The fact that there were at that time no other bidders willing to compete shows the existence of a tax trust, which had the state at its mercy. Caesar, indeed, sought to safeguard the republic against further imposition by stipulating that thereafter the societies should never bid below the price of 59. A further examination of the details by M. Laurient seems to reveal the existence of a very clever plot on the part of the different *societates*. One of them, by outbidding all the others in 61, secured the contract at what appeared an exceedingly advantageous offer for the state. It then bought up all its competitors, and by refusing to carry out the contract compelled the state not only to grant very much reduced terms, but also to extend the franchise for more than the legal period. It is unnecessary to point to the very up-to-date character of the transaction. E. R.

CLASSICAL STUDIES AS A PREPARATION FOR LAW

IV. Discussion of the first three Papers.

(1) By Hon. Harlow P. Davock, of the Detroit Bar.

The question when and how far Latin and Greek should be studied may be left for determination to

the educational expert, but I wish to enter my protest against the apparent ease with which other studies at the present time can be substituted. The substitution of superficial polish for deep culture—the substituting of a kind of Chautauqua or lyceum course of lectures for the rigid training of classics, mathematics and philosophy—is to my mind the imminent peril which presents itself in the present type of college and university curriculum, and surely for no profession is sound and thorough preliminary study more needed than for the law.

Whatever makes the interpreters of law intellectually honest, whatever makes them true thinkers and close analysts, is not only for their betterment, but for the betterment of society as a whole. I believe that the humanistic studies will best help prepare the lawyer for his part in life, and I know no greater responsibility than that which rests upon the teachers in our intermediate schools—those who guide, direct and control the mind of the student in its formative period, who should see to it that the studies of the young student are rightly chosen.

(2) By Hinton E. Spalding, of the Detroit Bar. It is because, from my own experience, I believe in the value, the great value of classical training as a preparation for the practice of the law . . . that I came out here this afternoon to give such reason as I might for the "faith that is in me".

It is almost thirty years since Professor D'Ooge gave me my entrance examination in Latin and Greek. I liked classical study, and for that reason, and for no other, I have continued to read the classics ever since; without pursuing any systematic course I have I think in every year since I left college and in most of the months of every year, read more or less Greek and some Latin.

The ability to read Greek and Latin at sight has, in my estimation, a value aside from the disciplinary for professional purposes; in that way, and in that way only, can one get the close and intimate knowledge of literature, which after all is most essential.

Fundamental in the work of the lawyer is the investigation of truth. This investigation he carries on under great disadvantages, because his material is the infinite multitude of facts of human life continually shifting and varying, imperfectly understood at the best, and subject to continual modifications. He can carry on no exact experimentation in his work, and his instrument in his investigation is language considered as a vehicle for the exact expression of thought. . . . A prime characteristic of the classical literature, and particularly the Greek, is an ever-present sense of measure and proportion, clear perception of the idea in mind and adequate expression of it, a perfect command of all the resources of expression and of all the powers of the mind, so that no one either dominates or is dominated by another. The study of such literature to the point which I have suggested, when you can really sense it without looking through the pages of a dictionary, will give, as I think, better than anything else can give, the ability essential for professional success. In this connection it has been suggested that Latin is of more importance than Greek. With that point of view I cannot agree; for the purpose I have indicated, Greek seems to me to be more important than Latin.

T. F. W.

Two important Cretan discoveries, made by the Italian expedition, are reported by Luigi Pernier, in the *Marzocco*, Florence. The first is a terra-cotta

disc more than six inches in diameter bearing on both sides a pictographic inscription. The small figures representing men, fishes, birds, trees, plants, and various utensils, are contained within incised spirals running from the rim to the center. These figures are brought together into groups by scratched lines and are undoubtedly characters of a very ancient pictographic writing of which a few specimens of a simpler sort have been noted on gems found at Knossos. But on each side of this plaque, which was found at Phaestus, are no less than 120 signs. And since we have not to do with letters but hieroglyphs, this indicates a document of considerable extent from which one may even hope to decipher the earliest Cretan inscriptions. The characters are not worked with a point, as has always been the case in previous scanty finds, but struck with punches which must have been beautifully and accurately cut. "A true example of typography", says Signor Pernier, "which goes back to 2,000 years before Christ". At Prinia the expedition discovered an archaic Greek temple containing many fragments of colored sculpture in soft limestone. The most important of these is a goddess half life size, seated with arms close to the body and hands resting on the knees. The heavy chiton is ornamented with rosettes and small figures of animals carved in low relief, representing embroidery. Under a sort of miter the hair falls heavily and symmetrically upon the shoulders. Upon the sculptured base of this statue is carved the same divinity in the same costume, but standing with the arms pressed closely to the sides. At the right and the left are three lions and three feeding stags in a highly developed naturalistic style. Signor Pernier surmises that in this sixth century fragment we may have a precious relic of the so-called Daedalan art of Crete, which the ancients believed to be the beginning of their sculpture.—*The New York Evening Post*.

A few years ago, when I was using a text of Caesar in which *jam* appeared, one of my boys translated the first line of the 11th chapter of Book I *Helvetii jam per angustias et fines Sequanorum*, etc., by "The Helvetians jammed through the narrows and finished the Sequanians". That boy is now a prominent lawyer in the state. You see, he had the 'push' in him. One of my students here once rendered *pressi copia lactis* of Vergil's first Eclogue by "an abundanc of condensed milk".

It is not the college alone that receives poorly equipped students. The following comment on Aeneid 6. 808 was written by a boy from another school who has been admitted to my Senior Latin class, having passed the entrance examination in elementary Latin of one of our largest universities: "Ille refers to Tullus who overcame Agemmon king of Persia and took Mycene the ritchest city in the Empire".

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